

4DM813 – EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION

Reformed Theological Seminary

Summer Term, 2010

Professors: Samuel H. Larsen, D.Min., Ph.D.

(5/17/10)

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

3 hours. An examination of theoretical models of intercultural communication and the processes of intercultural adaptations that affect the communication process. Emphasis is given to practical application of intercultural communication concepts.

Professor of Record:

Sam Larsen is Professor Emeritus of Missions at Reformed Theological Seminary (RTS) and has taught Missions and Intercultural Studies at RTS since 1998. He has a Doctor of Ministry from RTS and a PhD in Intercultural Studies from Trinity International University. He brings together life experience both as a missionary in Kenya and Australia and as a Navy Chaplain and has traveled and taught extensively in North America, South America, Europe, Asia, and Oceania. He has planted or pastored churches on three continents.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Course participants will demonstrate the following competencies:

1. Awareness of the biblical ontology of the human person as a relational and communicative being, drawing implications for the task of intercultural missions.
2. Familiarity with important theories of intercultural communication, with a critique of the underlying assumptions of each and implications for the task of intercultural missional ministry.
3. Awareness of resources for field research in intercultural communication issues.
4. Appreciation for the complex challenges confronting intercultural communication of the Christian Gospel, together with increased confidence in its cross-cultural communicability.
5. Development of skills for teaching and practicing intercultural communication.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Hall, E. T. 1981. *Beyond culture*. New York: Doubleday. (281 pp.)

Kim, Y. Y., and W. B. Gudykunst, eds. 1996. *Theories in intercultural communication*. Newbury Park, Calif: Sage. (328 pp.)

Lustig, Myron W., and Jolene Koester. 2009. *Intercultural competence: Interpersonal communication across cultures* (6th ed.). New York: Longman. (400 pp.)

Peterson, Brooks. 2004. *Cultural intelligence: A guide to working with people from other cultures*. Yarmouth, Maine: Intercultural Press. (250 pp)

RECOMMENDED READING:

- Bennett, M. ed. 1998. *Basic concepts of intercultural communication*. Yarmouth, Maine: Intercultural Press. (164 pp.)
- Brislin, Richard W. 1981. *Cross-cultural encounters*. Boston: Allyn and Bacon. (372 pp.)
- Chen, G. M., and W. J. Starosta. 1998. *Foundations in intercultural communication*. Boston: Allyn and Bacon.
- Condon, J., and F. Yousef. 1985. *An introduction to intercultural communication*. New York: Macmillan.
- Dodd, Carley H. 1998. *Dynamics of intercultural communication*. Fifth edition. Boston: McGraw Hill. (336 pp.)
- Gudykunst, W. B., ed. 1983. *Intercultural communication theory: Current perspectives*. Newbury Park, Calif.: Sage.
- Gudykunst, W. B., and Y. Y. Kim. 1998. *Communicating with strangers: An approach to intercultural communication*. 3rd ed. Reading, Mass.: Addison-Wesley. (448 pp.)
- Gudykunst, W. B., S. Ting-Toomey, and E. Chua. 1988. *Culture and interpersonal communication*. Vol. 8. Interpersonal Communication Series. Newbury Park, Calif.: Sage.
- Hesselgrave, David. 1978. *Communicating Christ cross-culturally*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan.
- Hesselgrave, David J., and Rommen, Edward. 2000. *Contextualization: Meanings, methods, and models*. Pasadena, Calif.: William Carey Library. (281 pp.)
- Hiebert, Paul G. 1999. *Missiological implications of epistemological shifts: Affirming truth in a modern/post modern world*. Harrisburg, Pa.: Trinity Press.
- Hofstede, Geert. 1980. *Cultures and organizations: Software of the mind*. London: McGraw-Hill.
- Huntington, Samuel. 1996. *The clash of civilizations and the remaking of world order*. New York: Simon and Schuster.
- Kearney, Michael. 1984. *World View*. Novato, Calif.: Chandler and Sharp Publishers, Inc.
- Nicholls, Bruce. 1979. *Contextualization: A theology of gospel and culture*. Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity Press. (72 pp.)
- Samovar, L., R. Porter, and E. R. McDaniel. 2009. *Communication between cultures*. Belmont, Calif.: Wadsworth. 334 pp.)
- Samovar, L., and R. Porter, eds 2000. *Intercultural communication: A reader*. 9th ed. Belmont, Calif.: Wadsworth.
- Sire, James W. 1946. *The universe next door*. Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity Press.
- Ramachandra, Vinoth. 1999. *Faiths in conflict?* Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity Press.
- Wiseman, Richard, and Jolene Koester. 1993. *Intercultural communication competence*. London: Sage. (255 pp.)

COURSE ASSESSMENT:

1. Participants will complete required pre-course readings. Participants will be prompt and regular in class attendance and will join actively in class discussions, drawing upon both course readings and personal experience.
2. Participants will write a major paper or project (18-20 pages, including reference list) on a pre-approved topic relating to intercultural communication.

OFFICE HOURS:

Dr. Larsen is available by appointment. Appointments may be arranged with the professor after class or by e-mail (slarsen@rts.edu).

<u>Session</u>	<u>Topics/Assignments</u>
1	Welcome, introductions, course expectation cards Devotional by professor Course overview; Bloom=s taxonomy of learning Schedule of student class devotionals and course paper due date Cultural Values Questionnaire Discussion of E.T. Hall, <i>Beyond Culture</i> Elements and dimensions of communication; HC and LC cultures
2	Class Devotional Values and communication Discussion of Lustig and Koester, <i>Intercultural Competence</i> Gullahorn & Gullahorn, Brislin, & Kohl: w-curve
3	Class Devotional Discussion of Kim and Gudykunst, <i>Theories in Intercultural Communication</i> Hofstede=s four tensions
4	Devotional by designated student Discussion of B. Peterson, <i>Cultural Intelligence</i> Toward a Biblical theology of preaching across cultures Implications for cross-cultural communication: Proclamation or Reception? Intercultural Communication and Multicultural Teams